General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 February 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 118

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/648/Add.1)*]

63/260. Development-related activities

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on improving the effective and efficient delivery of the mandates of development-related activities and revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009[1] and the Development Account,[2] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on improving the effective and efficient delivery of the mandates of development-related activities and revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009[1] and the Development Account;[2]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Acknowledges* that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being, and recognizes that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing;

4. *Stresses* the importance of a coherent vision of the Secretariat's role in the global development architecture;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to enhance the coordination of the United Nations development system with a view to ensuring greater synergies, effectiveness, efficiencies and coherence of efforts in the delivery of its social, economic and development mandates;

---

[1] A/62/708.

[2] A/63/335.

[3] A/62/7/Add.40 (for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A*) and A/63/479.

6. *Decides* to establish the posts as contained in the annex to the present resolution;

7. *Also decides* that the posts for section 17, Economic and social development in Africa, section 18, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, section 19, Economic development in Europe, section 20, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and section 21, Economic and social development in Western Asia, shall be established effective 1 January 2009, and the posts for section 9, Economic and social affairs, section 10, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, section 11, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, and section 12, Trade and development, shall be established effective 1 July 2009;

8. *Further decides* not to abolish the post of the Special Adviser on Africa at the level of Under-Secretary-General;

9. *Decides* not to approve the non-post resources for travel of staff, consultants and experts and contractual services, excluding the regional commissions;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution within the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013.

74th plenary meeting
24 December 2008

Annex

Development-related activities: posts to be established under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Section and subprogramme	*Number of posts*	*Level*
9. Economic and social affairs		
Executive direction and management	1	1 P-5
1. Economic and Social Council support and coordination	1	1 P-4
2. Gender issues and advancement of women	5	1 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3
3. Social policy and development	1	1 P-4
4. Sustainable development	1	1 P-4
5. Statistics	1	1 P-3
6. Population	1	1 P-4
9. Sustainable forest management	1	1 P-5
10. Financing for development	1	1 P-4
Subtotal	**13**	**3 P-5, 7 P-4, 3 P-3**
10. Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States		
1. Least developed countries	1	1 P-4
2. Landlocked developing countries	1	1 P-4
3. Small island developing States	1	1 P-4
Subtotal	**3**	**3 P-4**
11. United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development		
1. Coordination of global advocacy of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	3	1 P-4, 2 P-3
Subtotal	**3**	**1 P-4, 2 P-3**
12. Trade and development		
1. Globalization, interdependence and development	6	1 D-1, 1 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3
2. Investment, enterprise and technology	2	1 P-5, 1 P-4
3. International trade	2	1 D-1, 1 P-4
5. Africa, least developed countries and special programmes	2	1 D-1, 1 P-4
Subtotal	**12**	**3 D-1, 2 P-5, 5 P-4, 2 P-3**
17. Economic and social development in Africa		
Executive direction and management	1	1 National Officer
7. Subregional activities for development	11	11 National Officer
9. Statistics	6	2 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3
Programme support	1	1 National Officer
Subtotal	**19**	**2 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3, 13 National Officer**

Section and subprogramme	*Number of posts*	*Level*
18. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific		
3. Subregional activities for development	11	2 D-1, 4 P-5, 1 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 Local level, 1 National Officer
Subtotal	**11**	**2 D-1, 4 P-5, 1 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 Local level, 1 National Officer**
19. Economic development in Europe		
Executive direction and management	1	1 P-4
3. Statistics	1	1 P-3
5. Sustainable energy	1	1 P-4
Programme support	1	1 P-3
Subtotal	**4**	**2 P-4, 2 P-3**
20. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean		
1. Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation	2	1 P-4, 1 P-3
2. Production and innovation	1	1 P-3
4. Social development and equity	1	1 P-3
5. Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development	2	1 P-5, 1 P-3
6. Population and development	1	1 P-3
8. Sustainable development and human settlements	3	1 P-5, 1 P-3, 1 P-2
9. Natural resources and infrastructure	4	1 P-4, 2 P-2, 1 Local level
10. Statistics and economic projections	1	1 P-3
11 Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	3	1 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 Local level
12. Subregional activities in the Caribbean	2	2 P-3
Subtotal	**20**	**2 P-5, 3 P-4, 10 P-3, 3 P-2, 2 Local level**
21. Economic and social development in Western Asia		
1. Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development	1	1 P-4
2. Integrated social policies	1	1 P-4
3. Economic development and integration	1	1 P-4
4. Information and communication technology for regional integration	2	1 P-5, 1 National Officer
5. Statistics for evidence-based policymaking	1	1 P-3
Subtotal	**6**	**1 P-5, 3 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 National Officer**
Total	**91**	

General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 118

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/648/Add.2)*]

63/261. Strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/236 of 22 December 2007,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, section 3, Political affairs, section 28D, Office of Central Support Services, and section 35, Staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009, relating to the strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs,[1] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the management of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs,[2] the letter dated 7 March 2008 from the Permanent Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[3] the letter dated 12 March 2008 from the Secretary-General to the Permanent Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and Cuba to the United Nations[4] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5]

Reaffirming its rules of procedure,

Recalling the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation[6] and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[7]

Stressing the intergovernmental, multilateral and international character of the United Nations,

---

[1] A/62/521 and Corr.1.

[2] A/61/357.

[3] A/C.5/62/24.

[4] A/C.5/62/25.

[5] A/62/7/Add.32. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[6] ST/SGB/2000/8.

[7] ST/SGB/2003/7.

Reaffirming the role of the General Assembly and its relevant intergovernmental and expert bodies, within their respective mandates, in planning, programming, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation,

Recognizing that the prevention of armed conflict and the peaceful settlement of disputes are central to the mandate of the United Nations,

Recognizing also that preventive diplomacy is a core function of the United Nations and is central to the role of the Secretary-General and that the Department of Political Affairs has primary responsibility for carrying out preventive diplomacy and supporting the good offices function of the Secretary-General,

Recognizing further the important role of the good offices of the Secretary-General, including in the mediation of disputes,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Stresses* that any activity by the Department of Political Affairs related to preventive diplomacy and conflict resolution must be carried out in accordance with the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States;

3. *Also stresses* that improvement in the capacity of the United Nations to prevent and resolve conflicts is a better investment than dealing with the cost of armed conflict and its aftermath;

4. *Recognizes* the important role women play in the area of preventive diplomacy;

5. *Also recognizes* that the root causes of armed conflict are multidimensional in nature, thus requiring a comprehensive and integrated approach to the prevention of armed conflict;

6. *Notes* that the objective of strengthening and rationalizing the Department of Political Affairs, including its supportive role regarding preventive diplomacy and resolution of conflict, is to improve the Department's effectiveness and efficiency in fulfilling its mandate;

7. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

8. *Also reaffirms* its role in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of human and financial resources and policies, with a view to ensuring full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

9. *Further reaffirms* its role with regard to the structure of the Secretariat, and stresses that proposals to amend the overall departmental structure, as well as the format of the programme budget and the biennial programme plan, are subject to its review and prior approval;

10. *Reaffirms* its resolution 55/231 of 23 December 2000, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that in presenting the programme budget, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement are included to measure achievements in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization and not those of individual Member States;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore potential synergies and complementarities among special political missions, where possible, in order to avoid duplication and overlap, bearing in mind the autonomous nature of each legislative mandate;

12. *Underlines* the continued importance of the role of the Secretary-General in ensuring, when appointing his special representatives and envoys, the highest standards of integrity, competency, impartiality and professionalism;

13. *Emphasizes* the sensitivity of the mandates of special political missions, and in this regard recalls Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter of the United Nations;

14. *Recalls* that the Secretary-General may nominate special representatives and envoys, and in this respect notes the intention of the Secretary-General to continuously consult with Member States concerned on these matters;

15. *Also recalls* the role of the Secretary-General as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter;

16. *Reiterates* that the delegation of authority on the part of the Secretary-General should be in order to facilitate the better management of the Organization, but stresses that the overall responsibility for management of the Organization rests with the Secretary-General as the Chief Administrative Officer;

17. *Also reiterates* the importance of strengthened accountability in the Organization and of ensuring greater accountability of the Secretary-General to Member States, inter alia, for the effective and efficient implementation of legislative mandates and the use of human and financial resources;

18. *Recalls* the letter dated 7 March 2008 from the Permanent Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General[7] and the letter dated 12 March 2008 from the Secretary-General to the Permanent Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and Cuba to the United Nations,[8] stresses the strong concerns of some Member States contained therein,[7] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that there is sufficient knowledge within the Department of Political Affairs of the political situation in all regions and to abide strictly by the principles enshrined in the Charter;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to ensure that, in the submission of future budget documents, the narrative parts are based solely on factual information;

20. *Stresses* the importance of the role of the Department of Political Affairs in providing appropriate political guidance in the context of its involvement in United Nations trust funds to which it provides such guidance, in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

21. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[9] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

22. *Recalls* section V, paragraph 8, of its resolution 62/238 of 22 December 2007, takes note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services[3] and stresses the importance of its full implementation;

23. *Emphasizes* the importance of the integration of effort, policy coherence and efficiency in the use of resources;

24. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to address systemic issues that hamper good management of the Organization, including the work processes and procedures, and in that context stresses that structural change is no substitute for managerial improvement;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to identify, where possible, means to achieve greater complementarities and synergies between the Department of Political Affairs and other departments and offices of the United Nations Secretariat as well as other relevant actors of the United Nations system;

26. *Stresses* the importance of clear reporting lines and accountability between the special political missions and Headquarters;

27. *Decides* to establish the Middle East and West Asia Division and, in this regard, not to divide it into sections and units, and stresses the need to continue the current arrangement;

28. *Recalls* all United Nations resolutions related to the situation in the Middle East and the question of Palestine, and notes the responsibilities of the Middle East and West Asia Division in this regard;

29. *Decides* that the Asia and Pacific Division shall be composed of two sections, as follows:

(*a*) Asia-Pacific I Section (Central, South and North-east Asian countries);

(*b*) Asia-Pacific II Section (South-east Asia and the Pacific countries);

30. *Also decides* that the Americas Division shall comprise four sections, as follows:

(*a*) North America;

(*b*) Central America;

(*c*) The Caribbean;

(*d*) South America;

31. *Stresses* the importance of the Department of Political Affairs continuing to pay adequate attention to the situation in Haiti in support of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, together with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and other relevant United Nations entities;

32. *Decides* that the Caribbean Section shall be headed at the P-5 level;

33. *Stresses* the importance of the Department of Political Affairs continuing to pay adequate attention to regional and subregional organizations;

34. *Decides* not to establish a Policy, Partnerships and Mediation Support Division and not to approve the reclassification of a post for a director of that division from the D-1 to the D-2 level, and requests the Secretary-General to resubmit his proposals, taking fully into account the mandate of the Department of Political Affairs as stipulated in the strategic framework;

35. *Also decides* not to establish a Special Political Missions Support Unit until a report on the management and administration of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs is considered by the General Assembly;

36. *Stresses* the need for the Secretary-General to consider the status of the existing field presence of the United Nations entities engaged in promoting peace and security, taking into account their respective mandates, before proposing the establishment of regional offices;

37. *Recalls* paragraph 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5] and stresses that the establishment of any future regional political affairs office requires the concurrence of all concerned Member States covered by the relevant mandate approved by the appropriate legislative bodies;

38. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to regularly brief Member States on issues related to the work of the Department of Political Affairs and to keep ensuring appropriate interaction between the Department and the principal bodies of the Organization;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with conducting an audit of the management of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs, as a follow-up to the report of the Office, and to submit a report on the audit to the General Assembly for consideration at the main part of its sixty-fourth session;

40. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the efficiency and effectiveness of the new structure in the implementation of mandates as well as programmatic delivery and improvements in the administrative and management processes and efficiency gains;

41. *Decides* to establish the posts as contained in the annex to the present resolution.

74th plenary meeting
24 December 2008

Annex

Department of Political Affairs: posts to be established under the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009

Organizational unit		*Number of posts*	*Post level*
United Nations Liaison Office	New	3	1 P-5, 1 P-3, 1 LL
	Reclassification		1 D-1 to D-2
Office of the Under-Secretary-General	Reclassification		1 P-3 to P-4
	Redeployment		D-2 from Americas Division
Office of the Assistant Secretary-General (Africa)	New	1	1 P-4
Africa I Division	New	8	3 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 P-2, 2 GS (OL)
Africa II Division	New	6	1 P-3, 4 P-2, 1 GS (OL)
Middle East and West Asia Division	New	5	1 P-5, 1 P-4 (Iraq), 2 P-3, 1 P-2
Asia and Pacific Division	New	4	3 P-3, 1 P-2
Americas Division	New	3	1 P-5, 2 P-2
	Redeployment		D-2 to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General
Europe Division	New	1	1 P-4 (Cyprus)
	Reclassification		1 D-1 to D-2
Mediation Support Unit	New	7	1 P-4, 3 P-3, 2 P-2, 1 GS (OL)
Electoral Assistance Division	New	8	1 P-5, 3 P-4, 4 GS (OL)
	Reclassification		1 P-2 to P-3
Security Council Affairs Division	New	2	2 P-2
Executive Office	New	1	1 P-4
	Reclassification		1 P-5 to D-1
	Total	**49**	**2 D-2, -1 D-1, 3 P-5, 12 P-4, 12 P-3, 12 P-2, 8 GS (OL), 1 LL**

Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other Level); LL, Local level.

United Nations A/RES/63/262

General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 118

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/648/Add.3)*]

63/262. Information and communications technology, enterprise resource planning, and security, disaster recovery and business continuity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 57/304 of 15 April 2003, 59/275 of 23 December 2004, 60/283, section II, of 7 July 2006 and 62/250 of 20 June 2008,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Investing in information and communications technology: information and communications strategy for the United Nations Secretariat"[1] and the addendum thereto,[2] the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Information and communications technology: enterprise systems for the United Nations Secretariat worldwide",[3] the report of the Secretary-General on information and communications technology security, disaster recovery and business continuity for the United Nations[4] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5] the first progress report of the Secretary-General on the adoption of International Public Sector Accounting Standards by the United Nations[6] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[7] the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Investing in information and communications technology: status report"[8] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[9] the note by the Secretary-General on information and communication technology security, business continuity and disaster recovery[10] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on

[1] A/62/793 and Corr.1.

[2] A/62/793/Add.1.

[3] A/62/510/Rev.1.

[4] A/62/477.

[5] A/63/487 and Corr.1 and 2.

[6] A/62/806.

[7] A/63/496.

[8] A/62/502.

[9] A/62/7/Add.31. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[10] A/61/290.

Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[11] the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: interim report: investing in information and communications technology"[12] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[13] the notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on policies of the United Nations system organizations towards the use of open source software in the secretariats[14] and the comments of the Secretary-General and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[15] the notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on knowledge management in the United Nations system[16] and the comments of the Secretary-General and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[17] and the report of the Secretary-General on the feasibility of the application of cost-accounting principles in the United Nations Secretariat[18] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[19]

Underlining the importance of information and communications technology in meeting the growing demands of the Organization as it becomes increasingly reliant on its information technology and communications infrastructure,

Also underlining the importance of information and communications technology in strengthening oversight and accountability and in increasing the availability of accurate and timely information to support decision-making,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

2. *Recalls* the role of the Secretary-General as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Recognizes* the need for central authority to set common standards, provide an Organization-wide perspective, optimize use of resources and improve information and communications technology services;

4. *Also recognizes* the need for an integrated, global information system that makes possible the effective management of human, financial and physical resources and that is based on streamlined business processes and best practices;

5. *Further recognizes* the need for a global operational framework to enable the United Nations to respond effectively to emergency situations that may impair the operations of critical elements of its information and communications technology infrastructure and facilities;

---

[11] A/61/478.

[12] A/61/765.

[13] A/61/804.

[14] A/60/665.

[15] A/60/665/Add.1.

[16] A/63/140.

[17] A/63/140/Add.1.

[18] A/61/826.

[19] A/62/537.

6. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5,9] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

I

Information and communications technology strategy and governance

Recognizing the importance of the Secretary-General's knowledge management proposals, particularly in facilitating more informed decision-making and improving the effectiveness of the Organization,

Emphasizing the importance of strong, central leadership for the establishment and implementation of Organization-wide information and communications technology standards and activities in order to ensure efficient utilization of resources, modernization of information systems and improvement in the information and communications technology services available to the United Nations,

1. *Recognizes* that the successful integration of central information and communications technology functions across the Secretariat is essential to achieving coherence and coordination in the work of the Organization and between the Secretariat and the funds, programmes and specialized agencies;

2. *Notes* the intention of the Secretary-General to establish the Office of Information and Communications Technology in a budget-and-staff-neutral manner;

3. *Stresses* the need for a simple and operationally effective information and communications technology governance structure with clear lines of authority and accountability;

4. *Decides* to establish the Office of Information and Communications Technology as an independent organizational unit under a separate budget section, to be headed by the Chief Information Technology Officer at the level of Assistant Secretary-General;

5. *Emphasizes* that there is no single governance model for information and communications technology that can be assumed to be solely appropriate for the United Nations;

6. *Notes* the considerable level of expertise in the International Computing Centre, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to utilize the services of the Centre in supporting the information and communications technology activities of the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the centralization and integration of the information and communications technology functions in the Office of Information and Communications Technology do not have any negative impact on the support provided to field operations worldwide;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to foster deeper coordination and collaboration among United Nations organizations in all matters related to information and communications technology;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with its resolution 58/269 of 23 December 2003, to submit a revised strategic framework to the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-ninth session in the light of the

programmatic aspects of the revision arising from the creation of the Office of Information and Communications Technology;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-fifth session on his information and communications technology strategy, including on:

(*a*) Any necessary adjustments to the governance structure to make it simpler and operationally effective as a policy setting and management instrument;

(*b*) An update on such management and reporting arrangements;

(*c*) An in-depth assessment of the organizational arrangement, including the possibility of changing the placement of the Office of Information and Communications Technology in the structure of the Organization;

(*d*) A comprehensive inventory of information and communications technology capacities across the Secretariat, including dedicated and part-time personnel;

(*e*) More precisely identified and quantified efficiency gains or benefits expected from the implementation of the information and communications technology strategy;

(*f*) The methodology and benchmarks used to identify and measure those benefits;

(*g*) The roles and responsibilities of the Office of the Chief Information Technology Officer and the Department of Field Support of the Secretariat regarding information and communications technology activities, including on lines of authority, accountability and the division of labour set out in the new organizational structure;

II

Enterprise resource planning project

1. *Recalls* section II, paragraph 4, of its resolution 60/283, in which it decided to replace the Integrated Management Information System with a next-generation enterprise resource planning system or other comparable system;

2. *Stresses* that the implementation of the enterprise resource planning system should aim at consolidating the management of all financial, human and physical resources under a single integrated information system for the entire Organization, including for peacekeeping and field missions;

3. *Recognizes* the considerable operational and financial risks involved in the implementation of the enterprise resource planning system, and stresses the need for the Secretary-General to ensure full accountability and clear lines of responsibility for the project;

4. *Notes* the intention of the Secretary-General to implement the functionalities of the United Nations enterprise resource planning system in ways that would mitigate organizational and managerial risks;

5. *Stresses* the need to implement the various functions of the enterprise resource planning system across the global range of United Nations offices in a well-planned, step-by-step manner that ensures adequate preparation and training for each location and that minimizes the burden of change on the Organization and its resources, in order to further mitigate organizational and managerial risks;

6. *Notes* that the enterprise resource planning system provides for an integrated suite of information technology applications, as outlined by the Secretary-General in paragraph 20 of his report,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to report on those applications to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

7. *Approves* the proposed governance framework of the enterprise resource planning project;

8. *Notes* that the enterprise resource planning governance structure proposed by the Secretary-General is distinct from the information and communications technology governance structure;

9. *Recognizes* that the successful implementation of the enterprise resource planning project requires the full support and commitment of senior management, as well as close and continuous engagement with key stakeholders;

10. *Emphasizes* that the enterprise resource planning project should be viewed primarily as a business project driven by business process demands and delivered through complex information technology systems requiring a high level of technical expertise;

11. *Recalls* that the objective of the enterprise resource planning project is to enhance the effective and transparent use of the resources of the Organization and, in that regard, emphasizes the need to identify tangible and measurable efficiency and productivity gains arising from the project;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to limit customization of the enterprise resource planning software to the extent feasible in order to ensure cost-effectiveness as well as flexibility in upgrading to new versions of the software and to report on any necessary customization with full justification of rationale and cost;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, where customization for a particular function is unavoidable, to consider enhancing existing systems or using specialized software that can integrate with the enterprise resource planning system where it is more cost-effective in the long-term;

14. *Stresses* that changes to the working practices and business processes of the Secretariat should always be considered before undertaking customization;

15. *Expresses its readiness* to consider any duly justified proposal aimed at reducing customization, stressing that any proposed changes to the United Nations regulations must have prior approval of the General Assembly;

16. *Stresses* that, as a later adopter of the enterprise resource planning system, the United Nations can benefit from the lessons learned by other entities of the United Nations system that have implemented such systems;

17. *Takes note* of the overall resource requirements for the implementation of the enterprise resource planning systems for the United Nations as contained in the relevant report of the Secretary-General;[3]

18. *Approves* the amount of 20 million United States dollars, comprising 5,110,000 dollars to be funded from the regular budget for the biennium 2008–2009, 7,050,000 dollars from the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 and 7,840,000 dollars from extrabudgetary resources for the biennium 2008–2009 for the implementation of the enterprise resource planning system;

19. *Decides* to approve the utilization of the amount of 2,346,000 dollars of interest accrued under the Integrated Management Information System Fund available as at 31 December 2007 to offset the regular budget requirements for the enterprise resource planning project approved in paragraph 18 of the present section;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to meet the regular budget share of requirements for the enterprise resource planning system in the amount of 2,764,000 dollars from the overall resources appropriated for the biennium 2008-2009 for the regular budget and to report the related expenditure as necessary in the second performance report for the biennium 2008-2009;

21. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in a total amount not to exceed 7,050,000 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 in respect of the support account share for the enterprise resource planning project;

22. *Takes note* that an estimated amount of 7,840,000 dollars will be financed from extrabudgetary resources for the biennium 2008-2009;

23. *Endorses* the cost-sharing arrangement for the financing of the enterprise resource planning project proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 79 of his report;[3]

24. *Decides* not to suspend the provisions for the application of credits under regulations 3.2 (*d*), 5.3 and 5.4 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[20] regarding the use of available balances in the surplus account of the General Fund and the unencumbered balance of active peacekeeping operations;

25. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to establish a multi-year special account to record income and expenditures for this project;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the enterprise resource planning governance structure under review and to report to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-fourth session on the enterprise resource planning project, including:

(*a*) An assessment of the organizational arrangements;

(*b*) A revised enterprise resource planning project implementation and updated budget, taking stock of the design phase, with a full and detailed justification of the resources needed;

(*c*) An updated business case, including details on tangible and measurable efficiency and productivity gains in the areas of operation and administration to be achieved through the implementation of the enterprise resource planning system, as well as benchmarks for measuring progress and the anticipated return on investment;

(*d*) Highlighting those modules that are essential for the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

(*e*) An update on the implementation of the customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems, including further resources required, as well as the cost-sharing arrangement for their continued implementation;

---

[20] ST/SGB/2003/7.

(*f*) Justification of the need, and options for, contingency resources, including a possible budgetary alternative;

(*g*) Options for a reduced enterprise resource planning package at lower cost;

III

Customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems

1. *Recognizes* the benefits of the implementation of the customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement those applications throughout the Organization, as appropriate;

2. *Stresses* that the customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems shall be developed and implemented under the authority of the Chief Information Technology Officer in order to ensure a coordinated approach to the development of enterprise systems;

3. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure complementarity between the customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems with the forthcoming enterprise resource planning system;

4. *Decides* to approve additional resource requirements for the enterprise content management project in the amount of 2 million dollars, and requests the Secretary-General to meet the requirements from within the overall resources appropriated under the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009 and to report on the related expenditure, as necessary, in the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium;

5. *Notes* that implementation of the customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems is already in progress, and that at the time of the inception of those projects, the Secretary-General had not made a full proposal to the General Assembly;

IV

Security, disaster recovery and business continuity

1. *Emphasizes* the need for appropriate information and communications technology security, disaster recovery and business continuity plans;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consolidate systems in central data centres in order to strengthen disaster recovery and business continuity and to minimize the size of local primary and secondary data centres;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prioritize systems in order to minimize the cost of disaster recovery and business continuity;

4. *Recalls* section XV of its resolution 60/266 of 30 June 2006, and stresses the need to ensure timely and secure communications and information exchange within and between duty stations, as well as to ensure that a robust and fault-tolerant infrastructure is in place to continue or restart operations in the event of a natural or a man-made disaster or disruption;

5. *Notes* that the Secretariat lacks an Organization-wide approach to disaster recovery and business continuity, thereby exposing the Organization to considerable risks, and, in this regard, welcomes the development of a unified approach to disaster recovery and business continuity activities throughout the Secretariat;

6. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to take a unified approach to disaster recovery and business continuity, utilizing all available infrastructure, in order to achieve economies of scale and cost efficiencies;

7. *Deeply regrets* that the Secretary-General entered into a long-term lease for the proposed Long Island City data centre before the viability of the site as a secondary data centre for United Nations Headquarters had been fully established, and urges the Secretary-General to explore alternative uses for the leased space as a matter of urgency;

8. *Notes with concern* that the delay this caused may lead to further cost escalation, including to the capital master plan, and risk to data;

9. *Notes* the particular challenge of providing disaster recovery and business continuity to customized departmental information and communications technology systems, and encourages the Secretary-General to pursue an enterprise information and communications technology approach wherever possible;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations uses enterprise data centres rather than local data centres as far as possible;

11. *Decides* not to approve the proposal of the Secretary-General for a new secondary data centre at this stage, and requests him to report to the General Assembly at the first part of its resumed sixty-third session on the risk mitigation measures to be taken during the relocation of the primary data centre to the North Lawn;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a unified disaster recovery and business continuity plan, including a permanent solution for Headquarters;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to fully explore the possibilities for consolidating and using the most reliable and cost-effective solution for data storage, business continuity services and hosting of enterprise systems, drawing on the experience of other United Nations entities and global developments in information and communications technology, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-fourth session;

14. *Encourages* application and data re-engineering where it supports the long-term goal of managing data recovery and business continuity in system-wide enterprise data centres and where, from a long-term perspective, it is more cost-effective than hosting them at a local data centre;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the commitment of the Government of Spain, and approves the related proposal to host a secondary active telecommunications facility at Valencia, Spain, to support peacekeeping activities;

16. *Decides* not to proceed at this stage with plans to host computing and data storage equipment relating to Secretariat business continuity operations and enterprise solutions at the secondary active communications facility at Valencia;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in the report requested in paragraph 13 of the present section, plans to reduce the number of local data centres at Headquarters, offices away from Headquarters and peacekeeping missions;

18. *Endorses* the cost-sharing arrangement proposed by the Secretary-General for the new primary data centre of the United Nations Headquarters;[21]

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a proposal on cost-sharing arrangements in the context of the report requested in paragraph 11 of the present section on the new secondary data centre;

20. *Takes note* of the intention to meet the estimated requirements in the amount of 149,400 dollars for the establishment of the secondary active telecommunications facility at Valencia for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 from within resources approved for the same period for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy;

21. *Approves* the amount of 7,145,500 dollars for the establishment of a new primary data centre on the North Lawn at Headquarters, of which 5,716,400 dollars is to be funded from resources appropriated under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, and authorizes the Secretary-General to report the related expenditure, as necessary, in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium;

22. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in a total amount not to exceed 1,429,100 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 in respect of support account share for the establishment of a new primary data centre on the North Lawn;

23. *Takes note* of paragraphs 89 and 96 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[7] and decides to approve the amount of 2.5 million dollars, to be funded from the regular budget for the current biennium, for the provision of disaster recovery and business continuity services to Headquarters, offices away from Headquarters and field missions, and requests the Secretary-General to meet the above requirements from within the overall resources appropriated for the biennium for the regular budget and to report the related expenditures, as necessary, in the second performance report for the biennium.

V

International Public Sector Accounting Standards

1. *Takes note* of the first progress report of the Secretary-General on the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;[6]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[7]

3. *Recalls* that the General Assembly, in its resolution 60/283, approved the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards by the United Nations;

4. *Underlines* that the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards will improve governance, accountability and transparency in the United Nations system;

[21] A/62/477, para. 113.

5. *Recognizes* that the enterprise resource planning system will serve as the backbone for implementation by the United Nations of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

6. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to work within the Board to monitor the application of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards to ensure consistency within the United Nations system as a whole;

VI

Cost accounting

1. *Endorses* the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[19] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Takes note* of paragraphs 12, 17 and 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[19]

3. *Notes* that cost accounting is more suitably applied to the support services of the Organization and may not be suitable for use in the substantive work of the Organization;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the methods for calculating costs of support services, including through a framework for cost accounting in order to standardize current costing practices, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include, in the report requested in paragraph 4 of the present section, an analysis of other areas within the support services of the Organization in which cost accounting could be applied.

74th plenary meeting
24 December 2008

General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 February 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 118

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/648/Add.4)*]

63/263. Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009

The General Assembly,

I

Construction of additional conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre and additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa, and improvement and modernization of the conference facilities and construction of additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

Recalling its resolution 56/270 of 27 March 2002, section IV of its resolution 58/272 of 23 December 2003 and sections IX and X of its resolution 62/238 of 22 December 2007,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on improving and modernizing the conference facilities and the construction of additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi[1] and on the construction of additional conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre, and the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa,[2] as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to construct, improve and modernize facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa, the United Nations Office at Nairobi and the Vienna International Centre to ensure the efficient work of the Organization,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Governments of Ethiopia and Kenya, as host countries, in facilitating the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the improvement and modernization of the conference facilities and the construction of

[1] A/62/794.
[2] A/63/303.
[3] A/63/465.

additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and of the efforts of the Government of Austria, as host country, in completing the construction of new conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre, as well as in achieving good progress in the asbestos removal project;

2. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[4]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Underlines* the risks inherent in the execution of construction projects, and stresses the importance of adequate planning, coordination and project supervision to avoid going over budget;

5. *Expresses concern* about the delays and procedural difficulties in the execution of the projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi, which are contributing to project cost escalation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake management reviews of the projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi with a view to expediting implementation, to ensure that a dedicated project management capacity is in place at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi and to report to the General Assembly thereon in the context of his next annual progress reports;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of guidance, interaction and coordination between the Secretariat in New York, on the one hand, and the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi, on the other hand, with clear reporting lines;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full accountability for the delays, lack of responsiveness of management to the needs of the construction projects in Addis Ababa and Nairobi and other factors that have contributed to delays in the implementation of the projects and project cost escalation and to include that information in his next annual progress reports;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the leadership and guidance of the Secretary-General and senior management as well as a commitment to the construction projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi by all parties concerned during the execution and completion of the projects;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the Member States through regular informal briefings on the construction projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to complete the construction projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi as planned, without any further delays or additional requirements from the regular budget, and to ensure that progress is monitored by the Under-Secretary-General for Management, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

[4] A/62/794 and A/63/303.

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the construction regulations and rules of the Organization, including the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[5] are abided by and fully upheld in all phases of the construction projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

13. *Approves* the revised estimated cost of 25,252,200 United States dollars for the construction of additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

14. *Also approves* the use of interest income of 798,200 dollars as at 31 December 2007, and further approves the use of future interest income generated by accumulated rental income for the construction of additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

15. *Further approves* the revised estimated cost of 3,479,000 dollars for improving and modernizing the conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with ensuring continuing effective audit coverage as well as regular, thorough management reviews of the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi, to be reported on in the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to the General Assembly;

17. *Recalls* paragraphs 24, 25, 35 and 44 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to submit, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011, information that outlines clearly the interaction between the Secretariat in New York and other duty stations for construction and long-term renovation projects, and that specifies all aspects of the division of responsibility and accountability;

II

Revised estimates relating to the Rule of Law Unit

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates under the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009 for the Rule of Law Unit[6] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[7]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[7] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Decides* to establish one P-5, two P-4 and one P-3 posts for the Rule of Law Unit, effective 1 January 2009;

---

[5] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[6] A/63/154.

[7] A/63/594.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Director of the Unit continues to be provided, for 2009, through secondment;

5. *Decides* to revert to this issue in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011;

III

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2008

Recalling its resolution 63/251 of 24 December 2008, entitled "United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission",

Takes note of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly [8] on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2008[9] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[10]

IV

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2008

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2008,[11] and endorses the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[12]

V

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its seventh, eighth and ninth sessions, proposals to improve the procedure for presenting to the General Assembly the financial requirements arising from the resolutions and decisions of the Council, and a consolidated statement on resolutions and decisions adopted by the Council arising from its continuing review of its subsidiary machinery and related programme budget implications

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General[13] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[14]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[13]

---

[8] A/63/360.

[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/63/30).

[10] A/63/501.

[11] A/63/371.

[12] A/63/567.

[13] A/63/541 and Add.1 and A/63/587.

[14] A/63/629.

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[14]

VI

Revised estimates resulting from the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[15] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[16]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

VII

Review of the lump-sum arrangement of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[17] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[18]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

VIII

Human resources management

Recalling section II of its resolution 63/250 of 24 December 2008,

1. *Decides* to approve, in connection with the harmonization of contractual arrangements, an additional appropriation in the amount of 13,165,400 dollars under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include a total amount of 80,900,900 dollars in the respective budgets of the affected peacekeeping missions for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010;

---

[15] A/63/583.

[16] A/63/628.

[17] A/63/537.

[18] A/63/616.

IX

Administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[19] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[20]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on any additional requirements arising from the recommendations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

X

Revised estimates under section 32, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009, relating to the provision of an integrated headquarters facility for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, in Baghdad

Recalling its resolutions 62/237 A and 62/238 of 22 December 2007,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates under section 3, Political affairs, and section 32, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009, relating to the provision of an integrated headquarters facility for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, in Baghdad,[21] the relevant parts of the report of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq[22] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[23]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates under section 3, Political affairs, and section 32, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009, relating to the provision of an integrated headquarters facility for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, in Baghdad;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Government of Iraq, and recognizes the importance of the proposal for the construction of a purpose-built integrated headquarters for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq;

4. *Approves* commitment authority for 2009 for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq in the amount of 5 million dollars under section 32 of the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009 to undertake design work in

[19] A/63/363.

[20] A/63/556.

[21] A/62/828.

[22] A/63/346 and Corr.1 and Add.5.

[23] A/63/601.

connection with the construction of the United Nations integrated compound in Baghdad;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring that the project is based on accurate assumptions and that its planning phase takes into account the experience of the execution of other construction projects in the United Nations and also of ensuring proper accountability with regard to the implementation of the project;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a new, complete and detailed proposal for the construction of the United Nations integrated compound in Baghdad, under section 32 of the programme budget, for its consideration early in the second part of its resumed sixty-third session, with detailed comprehensive financial requirements and clear timelines for the different phases of its implementation;

XI

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Recalling its resolutions 62/237 A and 62/238 of 22 December 2007 and 62/245 of 3 April 2008,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council[24] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[25]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Regrets* that the timing of the presentation of the report of the Secretary-General to the Fifth Committee was delayed until the last week of the main part of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to present future budget proposals for the special political missions no later than the last week of October;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to revise the narrative and the logical framework of the budget for the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004), taking into account recent developments and the concerns raised by Member States, and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly before the first part of its resumed sixty-third session;

5. *Takes note* of paragraph 94 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and decides to establish one Political Affairs Officer position at the P-3 level and five Local level positions;

[24] A/63/346 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.2–5.

[25] A/63/593.

6. *Also takes note* of paragraph 158 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and decides to reclassify the Chief Technical Adviser position from the D-1 to the D-2 level;

7. *Decides* to establish a position at the P-5 level, instead of one at the P-4 level, in the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus;

8. *Approves* budgets totalling 429,497,600 dollars for the twenty-seven special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council presented in table 1 of the report of the Secretary-General;[26]

9. *Takes note* of the estimated unencumbered balance of 15,850,800 dollars;

10. *Decides* to appropriate, after taking into account the estimated unencumbered balance of 15,850,800 dollars, under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, an amount of 413,646,800 dollars under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

11. *Also decides* to appropriate an amount of 26,432,000 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

XII

First performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009

Having considered the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009[27] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[28]

Recalling its resolutions 62/237 A and B of 22 December 2007 and 62/245 of 3 April 2008,

Taking note of the current challenges caused by the global financial crisis,

1. *Reaffirms* the budgetary process as approved in its resolution 41/213 and reaffirmed in subsequent resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009, and endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Also takes note* of paragraph 5 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and emphasizes that the content of the first performance report should be limited, in principle, to a description of parameter changes endorsed by the General Assembly;

4. *Endorses* paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and requests the Secretary-General to explore the recosting methodologies used by other international organizations with

[26] A/63/346 and Corr.1.

[27] A/63/573.

[28] A/63/620.

that used by the Secretariat, taking into account the unique nature of the United Nations, and to report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

5. *Recalls* section III, paragraph 6, of its resolution 60/283 of 7 July 2006, and requests the Secretary-General to implement the provisions of that paragraph and to report to the General Assembly thereon in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

6. *Approves* a net increase of 174 million dollars in the appropriation approved for the biennium 2008–2009 and a net increase of 6.8 million dollars in the estimates of income for the biennium, to be apportioned among expenditure and income sections as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General;

7. *Decides* to apportion among Member States 129 million dollars for expenses related to the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

8. *Approves* up to 45 million dollars for expenses relating to the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009, upon the receipt by the President of the General Assembly of a letter from the Secretary-General, to be apportioned among Member States, as an exception to regulation 3.3 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;[29]

9. *Stresses*, bearing in mind the third preambular paragraph of the present section, that the provisions of paragraph 8 constitute an exceptional measure;

XIII

Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 5,122,000 dollars remains in the contingency fund.[30]

74th plenary meeting
24 December 2008

[29] ST/SGB/2003/7.

[30] A/C.5/63/20.

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 February 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 118

Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/648/Add.4)*]

63/264. Programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009

A

REVISED BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008–2009

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the biennium 2008–2009, the amount of 4,207,608,400 United States dollars appropriated by it in its resolutions 62/237 A of 22 December 2007 and 62/245 of 3 April 2008 shall be adjusted by 657,471,800 dollars, as follows:

Section		*Amount approved in resolutions 62/237 A and 62/245*	*Increase/ (decrease)*	*Revised appropriations*
		(United States dollars)		
	Part I. *Overall policymaking, direction and coordination*			
1.	Overall policymaking, direction and coordination	89 215 800	5 346 300	94 562 100
2.	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	629 339 800	32 921 300	662 261 100
	Total, part I	**718 555 600**	**38 267 600**	**756 823 200**
	Part II. *Political affairs*			
3.	Political affairs	527 240 800	435 341 900	962 582 700
4.	Disarmament	21 607 900	851 800	22 459 700
5.	Peacekeeping operations	101 412 700	4 375 800	105 788 500
6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	7 439 800	202 500	7 642 300
	Total, part II	**657 701 200**	**440 772 000**	**1 098 473 200**
	Part III. *International justice and law*			
7.	International Court of Justice	41 200 400	3 927 300	45 127 700
8.	Legal affairs	46 069 000	1 639 200	47 708 200
	Total, part III	**87 269 400**	**5 566 500**	**92 835 900**

Section		*Amount approved in resolutions 62/237 A and 62/245*	*Increase (decrease)*	*Revised appropriations*
		(United States dollars)		
	Part IV. *International cooperation for development*			
9.	Economic and social affairs	158 384 800	7 149 600	165 534 400
10.	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	5 440 400	422 500	5 862 900
11.	United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	11 641 900	566 200	12 208 100
12.	Trade and development	123 746 100	9 348 500	133 094 600
13.	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO	28 099 800	2 773 900	30 873 700
14.	Environment	13 796 600	263 200	14 059 800
15.	Human settlements	20 520 800	280 800	20 801 600
16.	International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice	36 819 000	756 900	37 575 900
	Total, part IV	**398 449 400**	**21 561 600**	**420 011 000**
	Part V. *Regional cooperation for development*			
17.	Economic and social development in Africa	119 798 200	8 843 900	128 642 100
18.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	83 926 400	8 489 400	92 415 800
19.	Economic development in Europe	59 917 100	4 809 200	64 726 300
20.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	104 445 000	(1 285 700)	103 159 300
21.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	58 107 500	6 611 200	64 718 700
22.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	50 951 400	3 881 100	54 832 500
	Total, part V	**477 145 600**	**31 349 100**	**508 494 700**
	Part VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs*			
23.	Human rights	116 938 400	10 414 800	127 353 200
24.	International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees	73 069 300	6 936 200	80 005 500
25.	Palestine refugees	40 727 500	4 342 600	45 070 100
26.	Humanitarian assistance	28 492 300	1 369 500	29 861 800
	Total, part VI	**259 227 500**	**23 063 100**	**282 290 600**
	Part VII. *Public information*			
27.	Public information	184 000 500	5 374 100	189 374 600
	Total, part VII	**184 000 500**	**5 374 100**	**189 374 600**

Section		*Amount appropriated in resolutions 62/237 A and 62/245*	*Increase (decrease)*	*Revised appropriations*
		(United States dollars)		
	Part VIII. *Common support services*			
28A.	Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management	15 002 500	591 400	15 593 900
28B.	Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts	39 169 900	1 475 800	40 645 700
28C.	Office of Human Resources Management	70 688 100	2 360 600	73 048 700
28D.	Office of Central Support Services	236 300 100	(25 211 700)	211 088 400
28E.	Administration, Geneva	112 185 000	9 862 100	122 047 100
28F.	Administration, Vienna	39 019 800	632 600	39 652 400
28G.	Administration, Nairobi	27 838 900	(196 700)	27 642 200
36.	Office of Information and Communications Technology	—	37 031 600	37 031 600
	Total, part VIII	**540 204 300**	**26 545 700**	**566 750 000**
	Part IX. *Internal oversight*			
29.	Internal oversight	35 997 700	1 485 000	37 482 700
	Total, part IX	**35 997 700**	**1 485 000**	**37 482 700**
	Part X. *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*			
30.	Jointly financed administrative activities	11 459 300	996 100	12 455 400
31.	Special expenses	97 011 600	3 361 100	100 372 700
	Total, part X	**108 470 900**	**4 357 200**	**112 828 100**
	Part XI. *Capital expenditures*			
32.	Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	58 782 600	3 416 800	62 199 400
	Total, part XI	**58 782 600**	**3 416 800**	**62 199 400**
	Part XII. *Safety and security*			
33.	Safety and security	197 169 300	10 756 600	207 925 900
	Total, part XII	**197 169 300**	**10 756 600**	**207 925 900**
	Part XIII. *Development Account*			
34.	Development Account	18 651 300	—	18 651 300
	Total, part XIII	**18 651 300**	**—**	**18 651 300**
	Part XIV. *Staff assessment*			
35.	Staff assessment	465 983 100	44 956 500	510 939 600
	Total, part XIV	**465 983 100**	**44 956 500**	**510 939 600**
	Grand total	**4 207 608 400**	**657 471 800**	**4 865 080 200**

74th plenary meeting
24 December 2008

B

Revised income estimates for the biennium 2008–2009

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the biennium 2008–2009, the estimates of income of 520,077,700 United States dollars approved by it in its resolutions 62/237 B of 22 December 2007 and 62/245 of 3 April 2008 shall be increased by 35,198,700 dollars, as follows:

Income section	*Amount approved in resolutions 62/237 B and 62/245*	*Increase (decrease)*	*Revised estimates*
	(United States dollars)		
1. Income from staff assessment	470 397 500	45 148 000	515 545 500
Total, income section 1	**470 397 500**	**45 148 000**	**515 545 500**
2. General income	47 946 900	(10 195 900)	37 751 000
3. Services to the public	1 733 300	246 600	1 979 900
Total, income sections 2 and 3	**49 680 200**	**(9 949 300)**	**39 730 900**
Grand total	**520 077 700**	**35 198 700**	**555 276 400**

74th plenary meeting
24 December 2008

C

Financing of the appropriations for the year 2009

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the year 2009:

1. Budget appropriations totalling 2,779,400,350 United States dollars and consisting of 2,085,679,850 dollars, being half of the appropriation initially approved for the biennium 2008–2009 in its resolution 62/237 A of 22 December 2007, 36,248,700 dollars, being the additional appropriation approved for the biennium in its resolution 62/245 of 3 April 2008, and 657,471,800 dollars, being the increase approved in resolution A above, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 3.1 and 3.2 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[1] as follows:

(*a*) 14,890,800 dollars, consisting of:

(i) 24,840,100 dollars, being half of the estimated income other than staff assessment income approved for the biennium in its resolution 62/237 B of 22 December 2007;

[1] ST/SGB/2003/7.

(ii) 9,949,300 dollars, being the decrease in income other than staff assessment income approved for the biennium in resolution B above;

(*b*) 2,764,509,550 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006, of which 45 million dollars is subject to assessment in accordance with paragraph 8 of section XII of resolution 63/263 of 24 December 2008;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 283,193,400 dollars, consisting of:

(*a*) 232,890,200 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved by the Assembly in its resolution 62/237 B;

(*b*) 4,617,100 dollars, being the estimated increase in income from staff assessment approved by the Assembly in its resolution 62/245;

(*c*) 45,148,000 dollars, being the estimated increase in income from staff assessment approved by the Assembly in resolution B above;

(*d*) 538,100 dollars, being the increase in income from staff assessment for the biennium 2006-2007 compared with the revised estimates approved by the Assembly in its resolution 62/235 B of 22 December 2007.

74th plenary meeting
24 December 2008

General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda items 128 and 117

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/658)*]

63/265. Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities

The General Assembly,

I

Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Recalling its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, 54/244 of 23 December 1999, 59/272 of 23 December 2004 and 60/259 of 8 May 2006,

Having considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities[1] and the related note by the Secretary-General,[2] as well as sections III.A to C of the annual report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee,[3]

1. *Reaffirms* its primary role in the consideration of and action taken on reports submitted to it;

2. *Also reaffirms* its oversight role and the role of the Fifth Committee in administrative and budgetary matters;

3. *Further reaffirms* the independence and the separate and distinct roles of the internal and external oversight mechanisms;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee;

5. *Recalls* its resolution 61/275 of 29 June 2007, in which it approved the terms of reference of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities[1] and the related note by the Secretary-General;[2]

7. *Stresses* the importance of full implementation of accepted recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and requests the Secretary-General to

[1] A/63/302 (Part I) and Add.1.

[2] A/63/302 (Part I)/Add.2.

[3] A/63/328.

ensure that complete information is provided on the implementation of those recommendations and, where applicable, in cases where full implementation has not been achieved, detailed reasons therefor;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions, such as resolutions on peacekeeping operations relating to cross-cutting issues, are brought to the attention of relevant managers, and that the Office of Internal Oversight Services also takes those resolutions into account in the conduct of its activities;

9. *Also requests*, in this regard, the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions pertaining to the work of the Office of Internal Oversight Services are brought to the attention of the relevant managers;

10. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in sections III.A to C of the annual report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee in respect of the Office of Internal Oversight Services,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of those recommendations, taking into account the provisions of its resolutions 48/218 B, 54/244 and 59/272;

11. *Encourages* United Nations internal and external oversight bodies to enhance the level of their cooperation with one another, such as joint work-planning sessions, without prejudice to the independence of each;

12. *Notes* paragraph 17 of the annual report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee,[3] and recalls that one of the responsibilities of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee, according to its terms of reference, is to advise the General Assembly on the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of the audit activities and other oversight functions of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

13. *Also notes* that the five-year non-renewable term of the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services will expire in July 2010, and in this respect urges the Secretary-General to ensure that timely arrangements are made to find a successor in full conformity with the provisions of paragraph 5 (*b*) of its resolution 48/218 B;

II

Investigations and the Procurement Task Force of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Recalling its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, 54/244 of 23 December 1999, 57/282, section IV, of 20 December 2002, 59/272 of 23 December 2004, 59/287 of 13 April 2005, 61/245 of 22 December 2006, 61/275 and 61/279 of 29 June 2007, 62/234 of 22 December 2007 and 62/247 of 3 April 2008,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the information requested in paragraph 17 of its resolution 62/247[4] and on the information-sharing practices between the United Nations and national law enforcement authorities, as well as referrals of possible criminal cases related to United Nations staff, United Nations officials and experts on mission,[5] and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the activities of the Procurement Task Force for the period from 1 July 2007 to 31 July 2008[6] and the report of the Board of Auditors on the activities of the

[4] A/63/369.

[5] A/63/331.

[6] A/63/329.

Procurement Task Force,[7] the related notes by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments thereon[8] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[9]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the information requested in paragraph 17 of General Assembly resolution 62/247;[4]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the information-sharing practices between the United Nations and national law enforcement authorities, as well as referrals of possible criminal cases related to United Nations staff, United Nations officials and experts on mission;[5]

3. *Further takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the activities of the Procurement Task Force for the period from 1 July 2007 to 31 July 2008,[6] and the report of the Board of Auditors on the activities of the Procurement Task Force[7] and the related notes by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments thereon;[8]

4. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[9] subject to provisions of the present resolution;

5. *Takes note* of the work of the Procurement Task Force;

6. *Emphasizes* its commitment to preventing and deterring fraud and malfeasance within the Organization, and recognizes that such efforts cannot be sustained in the long term by an ad hoc body;

7. *Recalls* the ad hoc nature of the Procurement Task Force;

8. *Notes* the intention of the Secretary-General to transfer the remaining caseload of the Procurement Task Force of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to the Investigations Division of the Office at the beginning of 2009;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of Internal Oversight Services has the expertise and capacity within its approved structure to effectively investigate allegations of fraud, corruption and misconduct in procurement;

10. *Takes note* of paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[10] with regard to the specific element of human resources;

11. *Emphasizes* Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, reiterates section II of its resolution 61/244 of 22 December 2006, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations governing the recruitment of United Nations staff;

12. *Reiterates* that deliberate management decisions to keep a certain number of posts vacant should not be taken, as such action makes the budget process less transparent and the management of human and financial resources less efficient;

---

[7] See A/63/167.

[8] A/63/329/Add.1 and A/63/167/Add.1.

[9] A/63/492 and A/63/490.

[10] A/63/490.

13. *Expresses concern* over a number of vacancies in the Investigations Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services since the beginning of 2008, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to fill those vacancies as a matter of priority, in accordance with the existing relevant provisions governing recruitment in the United Nations;

14. *Stresses* that any changes involving administrative and financial implications shall be subject to the review and approval of the General Assembly in accordance with established procedures, including regulation 2.9 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;[11]

15. *Recognizes* that investigations of fraud, corruption and misconduct in procurement are often time-sensitive;

16. *Recalls* paragraph 18 of its resolution 62/247, in which it requested the Secretary-General to prepare for its consideration and approval, in close cooperation with the Office of Internal Oversight Services, a report providing detailed information on terms of reference with regard to the proposed comprehensive review of investigations in the United Nations before the General Assembly decides on the necessity of such a review, taking into account the role and mandate of the Office of Internal Oversight Services as established in its resolution 48/218 B, the framework for investigation adopted in section IV of its resolution 57/282 and in its resolution 59/287, the reform of the system of administration of justice, the decisions of the Assembly to strengthen the investigation function of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and its decisions on the accountability framework, results-based management, enterprise risk management and the internal control framework;

17. *Stresses* that the Office of Internal Oversight Services, in the conduct of its investigations, should fully address and respect the due process rights of staff concerned;

18. *Notes* the work by the Office of Internal Oversight Services to develop a comprehensive investigation manual, revise and expand the key standard operating procedures for investigations and develop a comprehensive investigation learning programme for managers and staff on the investigative process, and stresses the importance of that work being completed and made available to all United Nations personnel as soon as possible;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare as soon as possible standardized and consolidated rules and procedures applicable to all investigations in the United Nations other than the investigations conducted by the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and to ensure that such rules and procedures are made available to all United Nations personnel and to provide information thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, without prejudice to paragraph 18 of its resolution 62/247;

20. *Stresses* the importance of effective implementation, including referrals to national authorities and recovery actions where appropriate, of the accepted recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, as well as of effective coordination between that Office and other parts of the Secretariat in this regard.

74th plenary meeting
24 December 2008

[11] ST/SGB/2003/7.